

**SCIENCE ADVISORY BOARD**  
**Environmental Economics Advisory Committee**  
**Hilton Arlington and Towers**  
**950 North Stafford St., Arlington, VA, 22203**  
**(703) 528-6000**  
**November 14, 2003**

**1. Opening Remarks**

- 9:00 - 9:10 am      Introductory Remarks by the Designated Federal Officer  
                         Mr. Thomas Miller
- 9:10 - 9:20 am      Welcome and Introductory Remarks  
                         Dr. Maureen Cropper, Chair
- 9:20 - 9:25 am      Welcome and Introductory Remarks  
                         Dr. Vanessa Vu, Director, Science Advisory Board Staff Office

**2. Review of EPA's Environmental Economics Research Strategy**

- 9:25 - 9:30 am      EPA Introductory Remarks  
                         Dr. John C. Puzak, Acting Director; US EPA National Center for  
                         Environmental Research

**3. Public Comments**

- 9:30 - 9:35 am      a) No public requests for oral comments have been received

**4. Committee Deliberations on the Environmental Economics Research Strategy**  
**(See attached Charge Questions)**

- 9:35 am      **Valuation of Benefits of Environmental Improvements - Human Health**  
                         **Valuation**  
                         Dr. Maureen Cropper; Dr. James Hammitt
- 10:30 am      **Valuation of Benefits of Environmental Improvements - Ecological Valuation**  
                         Dr. Catherine Kling, Dr. Richard Norgaard
- 11:30 - 11:45 **BREAK TO PICK UP LUNCH AND RETURN FOR A WORKING**  
                         **LUNCHEON:** The Chair will call for a break at this time so that Committee  
                         Members, and others so desiring, can pick up their lunches at the hotel's luncheon  
                         buffet, pay for it with hotel staff, and return to the table to continue their  
                         deliberations.

11:45 am      **Environmental Behavior and Decisionmaking, Including Voluntary Programs**  
Dr. Arik Levinson, Dr. Kathleen Segerson, Dr. Gary Yohe

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1:00 pm      **Market Mechanisms and Incentives, Particularly Pollution Trading**  
Dr. Dallas Burtraw, Dr. Gloria Helfand, Dr. Hilary Sigman

2:00 pm      **Benefits of environmental Information Disclosure**  
Dr. Lawrence Goulder, Dr. Robert Stavins

## **5. Next Steps**

2:30 pm      Action Items for Completing the Committee Report  
Dr. Maureen Cropper; Panel

## **6. Plans for the Future**

2:45 - 3:00 pm      Discussion of Potential Follow-Up Tasks and New Topics for the EEAC  
EEAC Members

3:00 pm      **ADJOURN**

## **Charge to the EPA SAB EEAC Environmental Economics Research Strategy Review Panel**

**Charge Question 1:** For each of the major subject areas described in the EERS, EPA has attempted to articulate the most relevant research questions that EPA can effectively address given the available tools and resources. In this context, please address the following for the key research questions identified in the EERS in each of the subject areas.

- i) Is the characterization of each of the major research gaps in the literature, for the key subject areas **of relevance to EPA's economic sciences, as** identified in the EERS adequate? Will these priorities and implementation approaches effectively address the areas of greatest scientific uncertainty?
- ii) Given the implementation strategy laid out in the EERS;
  - To what extent is this research scientifically feasible at a high level of quality?
  - How successful is this research likely to be in answering policy-relevant questions for EPA within the next 8 -10 years?
- iii) What improvements in the design and implementation of the EERS would make each research project more useful to EPA and other environmental management agencies?

**Charge Question 2:** What methodological research needs in valuation should EPA investigate as a complement to the needs derived from the strategy interviews?

In the valuation areas, EPA's expressed needs are primarily practical: better values for ecological and human health impacts of environmental policies. However, most grant proposals (and most journal articles) investigate practical questions as well as methodological or other questions (e.g. incentive compatibility or elicitation methods in stated preference or more refined models of behavior in revealed preference). EPA does not expect that researchers will propose to estimate only the practical values that EPA needs, but will also propose to investigate methodological issues. Since the research strategy interviews did not elicit methodological needs, and EPA believes that improving methodology while generating practical values provides useful synergy, further input on prioritizing methodological issues from the EEAC would be useful.

**Charge Question 3:** Can the EEAC identify by consensus any environmental economics issues of overriding importance to EPA that the EERS has missed, and that EPA should address provided that more resources be made available for Environmental Economics Research? Could the EEAC explain why this (these) issue(s) should be of high concern to EPA's research programs.

**Charge Question 4:** What is the best way for EPA to communicate the results of the research strategy and plans for achieving its long-term research goals to the wider research community, and other potential users?